



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Wisconsin*

517 East Wisconsin Avenue

414 / 297-1700

Milwaukee, WI 53202

TTY 414 / 297-1088

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**NEWS SUMMARY:**

United States Attorney Steven M. Biskupic announced today at a news briefing that a federal grand jury has issued preliminary charges of kidnaping and conspiracy to commit kidnaping against MALKIT "MIKE" SINGH (age 27) and EKABAL "PAUL" BUSARA (age 29).

On March 2, 2003 Singh and Busara went to the home of Waheed Akhtar, the owner of Fun and Fast Travel Center, in the Village of Francis Creek. According to the criminal complaint, Akhtar was severely beaten, wrapped in blankets and placed in the back of Singh's Nissan Pathfinder. Singh and Busara then drive to the Fun and Fast Travel Center and assaulted Akhtar's nephew, Mukaram Iqbal. Iqbal was forced into the vehicle and was driven to the Atlantic City, New Jersey area. Iqbal later was able to escape from a hotel and notified the police.

At the press briefing Biskupic stated, "A body was recovered in New Jersey in a shallow grave. At this time, however, the U. S. Attorney's Office and law enforcement officials have not yet completed its review of the physical evidence, as well as the medical examiner's report. The evaluation of potential federal murder charges will come after a full consideration of all the alleged facts and circumstances."

Ekabal Busara remains in federal custody and is expected to appear in federal court in Green Bay within the next week. Malkit Singh remains a fugitive. If convicted, Singh and Busara face up to life in prison.

This case was investigated by the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department, Egg Harbor Township Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Daniel H. Sanders and Assistant United States Attorney Jason Torchinsky.

The public is cautioned that an indictment is merely the formal method of returning charges against an individual and does not constitute inference of his or her guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until such time, if ever, that the government established his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Anyone with information regarding Malkit Singh's whereabouts or any other information on these offenses, should contact the FBI at 414-276-4684 or the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department at 920-683-4200.

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For more information contact:

Assistant United States Attorney Daniel H. Sanders  
Assistant United States Attorney Jason Torchinsky  
Public Affairs Liaison Francia Wendelborn  
414-297-1700

